

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-04 TRSE-00

USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 /056 R

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P 241904Z JAN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017308

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, CO
SUBJECT: PROVISION OF AIR TRANSPORTATION TO GOC FOR
NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT

REF: BOGOTA 11294, BOGOTA 716

1. DEPARTMENT FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO EMBASSY PROPOSAL
AS SPELLED OUT IN REFTEL TO OFFER TO TWO GOC NARCOTICS
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES A TOTAL OF \$50,000 FOR FUNDING
OF CHARTER AIR SERVICE WHERE REQUIRED FOR GOC OPERATIONS.

2. DEPARTMENT OF VIEW THAT \$25,000 EACH FOR DAS AND
NATIONAL POLICE FOR CHARTER AIR SERVICE SHOULD BE
CLEARLY LABELED AS SUCH IN PRO AGS AND SEPARATED FROM
"OTHER COSTS" ITEMS. ACCORDINGLY, FOLLOWING CHANGES
IN PROPOSED LANGUAGE IN PRO AG ARE RECOMMENDED:

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(A) IN DAS PRO AG (PARAGRAPH 2A REFTEL): QUOTE

THE OTHER COSTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: OTHER COSTS FUNDS UP TO \$20,000 WILL BE USED FOR CONDUCTING STUDIES, SURVEY, AND TRAINING COURSES TO IMPROVE THE DAS CAPABILITY IN THE INTERDICTION OF ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC AND TO PROVIDE PER DIEM AND TRANSPORTATION FOR DAS PERSONNEL. END QUOTE.

(B) SUGGEST SEPARATE SECTION AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE UP TO \$25,000 WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER AIR SERVICE WHERE REQUIRED FOR OPERATIONS WHEN COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE WILL NOT SUFFICE. THESE FUNDS WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE THROUGH RECEIPTS RENDERED BY DAS THROUGH DEA TO USAID. END QUOTE.

(C) IN NATIONAL POLICE PRO AG (PARAGRAPH B, (3) REFTEL), QUOTE: \$25,000 WILL BE USED FOR CHARTER AIR SERVICE WHERE REQUIRED FOR OPERATIONS BY THE NATIONAL POLICE IN WHICH NORMAL COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE WILL NOT SUFFICE. THESE FUNDS WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE THROUGH REPORTS OR RECEIPTS RENDERED BY THE NATIONAL POLICE THROUGH DEA TO USAID. END QUOTE.

3. POST SHOULD NOTE THAT PROVISION OF FUNDS FOR AIR CHARTER SERVICE TO GOC ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IS DESIGNED IMPROVE THEIR OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES AND DEVELOP GOC ABILITY UNILATERALLY CARRY ON NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS. WHILE DEA WILL PLAY CRITICAL ROLE IN MONITORING USE OF AIR CHARTER SERVICE AND INSURING THAT GOC MAKING BEST USE OF FUNDS PROVIDED, OBJECTIVE OF PROVIDING AIR SERVICE IS TO IMPROVE GOC ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ABILITY TO REDUCE NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING AND NOT FOR UNILATERAL DEA OPERATIONS.

4. BEST EMBASSY ESTIMATE OF HOW MUCH OPERATIONAL CHARTER AIR SERVICE \$50,000 REPRESENTS AND TIME FRAME EXPECTED TO BE COVERED BY THIS SERVICE IS REQUESTED. (WE RECALL THAT \$40,000 WAS TO HAVE PROVIDED 4 MONTHS OF CHARTER SERVICE UNDER A PREVIOUS PROPOSAL.) AS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH NARCOTICS STUDY TEAM IN NOVEMBER, COLOMBIAN PERFORMANCE WITH AIR CAPABILITY CONFIDENTIAL

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WILL PROVIDE A BETTER ASSESSMENT OF NEED FOR AIRCRAFT ON A MORE PERMANENT BASIS IN MONTHS AHEAD (IF WARRANTED) AND WHAT TYPE(S). EMBASSY REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARE REQUESTED AFTER WE HAVE SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE IN THIS ACTIVITY TO EVALUATE.

5. BASED MOODY/BUCK TELCON JANUARY 17 - ISSUE OF CAPTURED FORMER U.S. REGISTRY AIRCRAFT (BOGOTA 405

AND PREVIOUS) HAS RAISED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS HERE THAT
HAVE YET TO BE RESOLVED. FURTHER, EVEN IF THESE ISSUES
RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY, ADDITIONAL TIME WOULD BE
REQUIRED TO NEGOTIATE NEW PRO AG, IMPORT PARTS, REPAIR
CAPTURED AIRCRAFT, AND MAKE IT COMPLETELY OPERATIONAL.
OUR PURPOSE IN PROVIDING CHARTER SERVICE TO DAS AND
NATIONAL POLICE AT THIS TIME IS TO GIVE THEM IMMEDIATE
CAPABILITY MOVE FORWARD IN CONDUCTING AERIAL OPERATIONS

WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

6. ALLOTMENT FOLLOWS PRIORITY SEPTTEL.

7. BOGOTA 716 JUST RECEIVED. DEPARTMENT CONCURS
WITH EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION. INGERSOLL

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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